

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
SEMINAR

CO-ORGANISED WITH MSSC IN GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY PROGRAMME



**Prof. Mucahid  
Mustafa Bayrak**

Assistant Professor,  
Department of Geography,  
National Taiwan Normal  
University

**Livelihood Resilience Capacities  
in the Face of the Climate Crisis:  
Insights from Vietnam's Mekong Delta  
and Coastal Taiwan**

**ABSTRACT**

Local communities in deltaic and coastal areas are increasingly coping with the negative effects of climate-related disasters. In the face of this emerging climate crisis, they have to employ several coping and adaptation strategies to keep their heads 'above water'. This can be done by employing so-called livelihood resilience capacities. These capacities concern livelihood strategies rural and coastal households employ to cope with or adapt to climate change (i.e., droughts, floods, sea-level rise, saline intrusion etc.). This can refer to small adjustments in farming techniques, learning new skills or adopting new livelihoods, or even abandoning agriculture altogether. In this paper, we highlight two communities experiencing the negative effects of climate-related disasters in the broader context of population ageing, out-migration, top-down government policies, agricultural modernisation, and cross-boundary governance. One case study is in Vietnam's Mekong Delta (of which the results have been recently published in the journal *Climatic Change*), and one case study reflects upon preliminary findings in Chiayi County, Taiwan. This paper essentially aims to answer the question on whether coastal and deltaic communities in the Asia Pacific are able to adapt to climate change or will we see an increasing amount of people leaving their village for the city?

**LANGUAGE**

English

**DATE**

25 Feb 2021 (Thu)

**TIME**

4:30 – 6:00 pm (GMT+8)

**ZOOM MEETING**

ID: 973 6037 5790

<https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/97360375790>

(no password required)

**ABOUT THE SPEAKER**

Prof. Mucahid Mustafa Bayrak, or Muca, graduated from the Geography and Resource Management Department of CUHK in 2015. Muca's research and teaching interests concern ways of how local and Indigenous communities in Southeast and East Asia cope with and adapt to global climate change. He often employs a political ecology approach in both his teaching and research. Muca is currently an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography, National Taiwan Normal University (NTNU), and an Einstein Scholar of the Ministry of Science and Technology of Taiwan. Before joining NTNU, Muca has been affiliated as Faculty Member with Harbin Institute of Technology, Shenzhen and Utrecht University, and as a Visiting Professor at University of Economics, Prague.

For inquiries, please contact Prof. Calvin Chung (Tel: +852 3943 9791; Email: [calvin.chung@cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:calvin.chung@cuhk.edu.hk))



**MGPE**  
GloCal Vision, Noble Insight

